

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIBREV 00242 280822 Z

10

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 INT-08 OEP-01 GSA-01 CIEP-02

STR-08 RSR-01 /108 W

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R 261615 Z MAR 73

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: EMIN, GB

SUBJ: SALE OF MANGANESE FROM STOCKPILE

1. FONMIN RAWIRI CALLED IN AMBASSADOR FOR JOINT MEETING WITH MINISTER OF MINES MBOUY BOUZIT AND GABONESE TECHNICAL EXPERTS TO DISCUSS US SALES OF MANGANESE FROM STOCKPILE.

2. MINISTER OF MINES SAID GABONESE HAD HEARD RUMOR THAT US INTENDS TO INCREASE SALES OF MANGANESE FROM 300,000 TONS A YEAR TO 500,000 TONS. MINISTER SAID HE HOPED RUMORS UNFOUNDED AS SUCH INCREASE WOULD HAVE VERY DAMAGING EFFECT ON SALES OF GABONESE MANGANESE. HE ADDED THAT US HAD GIVEN ASSURANCES IN PAST THAT SALES FROM STOCKPILE WOULD NOT EXCEED 300,000. MINISTER MENTIONED THAT LOW PRICE OF STOCKPILE ORE WAS ALSO DISRUPTING FACTOR, PARTICULARLY AS TEST S HAD SHOWN THAT QUALITY OF MOST OF STOCKPILE ORE WAS AS GOOD OR BETTER THAN THAT OF ORE CURRENTLY BEING SOLD BY GABON.

3. AMBASSADOR SAID THAT WHILE HE WAS AWARE THAT INCREASED STOCKPILE SALES OF MANY ITEMS WERE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONTEMPLATED HE HAD NO SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON
MANGANESE. HE SAID HE WOULD REPORT GABONESE CONCERN
TO WASHINGTON AND ENDEAVOR FIND OUT WHAT WAS INVISAGED.
AMBASSADOR ADDED THAT USG WOULD CERTAINLY BE PREPARED
TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH INTERESTED PARTIES AND, SHOULD
INCREASED MANGANESE SALES BE CONTEMPLATED, SUCH
DISCUSSIONS WOULD MOST PROFITABLY BE HELD IN
WASHINGTON. AMBASSADOR PROMISED TO KEEP GOG INFORMED.
PLEASE ADVISE.
MCKESSON

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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